Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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CONFIDENTIAL ANKARA 2732

E.O. 11652: GDS

AMCONSUL IZMIR

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TU, US

SUBJ: TURKISH CONCERN OVER PROPOSED CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION RELATED TO ARMENIANS

- 1. MFA'S DEP DIR OF STUDIES DEPARTMENT, IHYA BASARA, RECENTLY TOLD EMBOFF OF MFA'S CONCERN OVER A PENDING CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION, HR 1048, INTRODUCED BY REP. HENRY HELSTOSKI, WHICH WOULD DESIGNATE APRIL 24 AS "NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE OF MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN" WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE ARMENIANS AS VICTIMS OF GENOCIDE COMMITTED BY TURKS. BASARA SAID THAT THE TURKISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RAISE THIS MATTER WITH THE DEPARTMENT.
- 2. COMMENT: DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT TURKISH AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE (HASAN ISIK) WAS WITHDRAWN AFTER ERECTION OF ARMENIAN MONUMENT IN MARSEILLES IN 1973. OVER THE YEARS, THE GOT HAS CLEARLY ESTABLISHED ITS SENSITIVITY TO ARMENIAN EFFORTS TO DAMAGE TURKEY'S REPUTATION IN THE U.S. PASSAGE OF THIS RESOLUTION, ON TOP OF ACTION CONGRESS HAS ALREADY TAKEN IN CUTTING OFF MILITARY AID TO TURKEY, WOULD CREATE A VERY STRONG WAVE OF RESENTMENT HERE. IF THE DEPARTMENT SEES A REAL PROSPECT OF ITS PASSAGE, WE URGE THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP BE CONFIDENTIAL

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ADVISED OF THE HIGHLY NEGATIVE REPERCUSSIONS THAT WOULD BE

| CREATED IN US-TURKISH RELATIONS. MACOMBER | |
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| NNN | |

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